THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Details of major petroleum public sector undertakings and States where their registered offices are located are given in the enclosed statement (*See* below). During the year 2004-05, all these PSUs were in profit.

(c) to (f) Only Biecco Lawrie Ltd. was in losses prior to the year 2004-05. The company has submitted its proposal for restructuring to the Ministry for onward submission to Board for Restructuring of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) to maintain sustainable growth of the company in future.

Statement

Details of major petroleum PSUs.

Sl.No.	Name of the Oil PSUs	Name of the States where Registered offices located
1	Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.	Uttaranchal
2	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	Maharashtra
3	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	Maharashtra
4	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	Maharashtra
5	GAIL (India) Ltd.	Delhi
6	Engineers India Ltd.	Delhi
7	Oil India Ltd.	Assam
8	Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd.	West Bengal
9	Biecco Lawrie Ltd.	West Bengal

Policy on new CNG stations

†693. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some State Governments are opening up CNG fuel stations without the permission of Central Government;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether State Governments are empowered to set up their own CNG fuel stations;

(d) whether Government are considering to prepare any policy for gas distribution, if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have asked for suggestions from State Governments while formulating such policy; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (b) As per the information available with Government, the State Governments of Gujarat, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh have issued or are contemplating to issue NoCs/permissions to some parties for setting up City Gas Distribution Projects, including Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) distribution facilities, in different cities.

(c) In response to a Presidential Reference, the Hon'ble Supreme Court have opined on 25.3.2004 that the Union of India has exclusive jurisdiction to legislate on the subject of natural gas. This was also confirmed in the judgment pronounced by the Hon'ble Court while disposing of the linked Writ Petition on this issue. Thus, the State Governments do not have powers to issue licences for setting up city gas distribution projects.

(d) to (f) A city gas distribution policy for such projects envisaging, *inter alia,* selection of parties in a transparent and objective manner is under formulation. The State Governments of Gujarat, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh have been informed of the legal position in the matter.

Promotion of bio-diesel

†694. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to promote the bio-diesel in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.